

Terms of Reference for the Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings of the ECE Region for 2018-2019¹

I. Background

1. The Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings was established by the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Committee on Housing and Land Management (CHLM) with the participation of the Working Party 6 for 2016-2017 with a possibility of extension. The mandate of the Joint Task Force is proposed to be extended for the period of 2018-2019 with a possibility of extension.

II. Reporting

2. The Joint Task Force will report to its parent bodies, the Committee on Housing and Land Management and the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

III. Objective

3. The objective of the Joint Task Force is to enhance the harmonization of the markets for products and technological appliances that increase energy efficiency in buildings of the ECE member States. It broadens the exchange of experiences and approaches to increased uptake of energy efficiency measures in buildings among the member States. The Joint Task Force is guided by recommendations and decisions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the CHLM.

4. The Joint Task Force will facilitate the ECE's support towards the achievement of the targets set by international initiatives such as the Global Goal 7, the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative, and the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing. All of these initiatives stress the importance of energy efficiency to ensure energy security, mitigate GHG emissions and ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

IV. Planned activities and outputs

5. To achieve its objectives, the Joint Task Force will undertake the following activities:
- (a) Mapping energy efficiency standards in buildings and preparing gap analyses;
 - (b) Evaluating options for the development, adoption or promotion of energy efficiency standards in buildings;
 - (c) Preparing guidance materials;
 - (d) Promoting partnerships with other international organizations;

¹ Document approved at the 78th session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on 8-9 November 2017 as ECE/ENERGY/2017/5 ECE/ENERGY/GE.6/2017/7.

- (e) Establishing a network of experts on energy efficiency in buildings;
 - (f) Developing and organizing training programmes.
6. The Joint Task Force will deliver, in particular, the following outputs:
- (a) Mapping of existing energy efficiency standards in buildings in the ECE region;
 - (b) An online database of experts on energy efficiency in buildings tailored for the needs of the ECE region;
 - (c) A roadmap for future ECE activities on standards.
7. All of the above mentioned activities and outputs are subject to regular consultations with and between the parent bodies, the CHLM and the Committee on Sustainable Energy, the Working Party 6, partner organizations, donors and members of the Joint Task Force and might be subject to adaptations.

V. Funding

8. The activities of the Joint Task Force are supported by extra-budgetary funds and in-kind contributions. The listed activities will be implemented depending upon the availability of funds.

VI. Timetable

9. The mandate of the Joint Task Force will cover the period of 2018-2019 with a possibility of extension.

VII. Methods of work

10. The Joint Task Force is expected, subject to availability of funds, to have four face-to-face meetings during its mandate. The Joint Task Force will also work via various means of electronic communications. Donors are invited to provide voluntary contributions to support its work.

VIII. Membership

11. The Joint Task Force will be open to all ECE member States. Other UN member States are also welcome to participate. The Joint Task Force comprises experts from the CHLM, the Committee on Sustainable Energy, and the Working Party 6, other ECE bodies, international organizations, such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC), the Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency (C2E2), the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE), the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE), the Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN), the North American Passive House Network, the Passive House Institute (PHI), and other relevant experts, to ensure a cross-sectoral approach to addressing energy efficiency standards and building codes. Independent technical experts on building standards and state of the art technologies will be invited to support the work of the task force by providing written contributions and participating in its meetings.

IX. Secretariat support

12. The Joint Task Force will have two co-chairs representing the Committee on Housing and Land Management and the Committee on Sustainable Energy. The Committee on Housing and Land Management and the Committee on Sustainable Energy will jointly service the Joint Task Force. This will include:

(a) Servicing the Joint Task Force meetings (with interpretation and translation), including the preparation of meeting agendas and reports;

(b) Preparing background documents and studies for the Joint Task Force at its request;

(c) Arranging for financial support for members of the Joint Task Force from ECE member States, so that they can participate in its meetings.

13. Provision of the secretariat support is dependent on the availability of additional resources as described in Section V.
